GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3786
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2016
Conservation of Peacocks
Dwivedi Shri Harish

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted census of the National Bird, Peacock;
(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the population of peacock in the country at present, State-wise;
(c) whether the number of peacock is decreasing and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
(d) whether incidents of killing of peacocks have been reported recently in the country, if so, the details thereof and the action taken against the guilty persons, State-wise;
(e) the details of the funds released by the Government for the preservation of peacocks during the last three years and the current year, State-wise; and
(f) the steps taken by the Government to save and conserve the national bird?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE)

(a) and (b) Peacocks are commonly found birds, both inside forest areas as well as in agricultural or human habitations. Management and protection of wildlife including birds is the responsibility of the concerned State/Union Territory Governments. Population estimation with respect to certain flagship species/mega-fauna is carried out by the State Governments at periodic intervals. The State/UT-wise population status of peacocks are not collated in the Ministry.

(c) and (d) Fluctuation in the population of wildlife is a natural phenomenon, which is generally attributed to biotic factors like predation, natural death, etc and abiotic factors like consumption of pesticide treated seeds, etc. There are no reports to indicate the declining trend in the population of Peacocks. As per the Red List data published by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), Peacocks (Pavo cristatus) are listed as "Least concern".

Reports of killing of peacocks have been received in the Ministry from time to time. However, State-wise details of such wildlife offences is not collated in the Ministry.

(e) and (f) Financial assistance to the State/Union Territory Governments is provided for conservation of wildlife including peacocks under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of 'Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats (IDWH)', 'Project Tiger' and 'Project Elephant'. The details of such funds released to the State/ Union Territory Governments during the last three years and current year is at Annexure 1A, 1B and 1C respectively.

Indian Peafowl (Pavo cristatus) is named National Bird of the country. It has been listed in the Schedule I of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 thereby according this species highest degree of protection against hunting. Thus capture, trade of the bird is prohibited under law.

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